

- B1
3. A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects according to Claim 2, wherein said composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a mouthrinse, toothpaste, tooth gel, tooth powder, non-abrasive gel, chewing gum, mouth spray, lozenge, dental implement, and a pet care product.
4. A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects according to Claim 2, wherein said H<sub>2</sub> antagonist is selected from the group consisting of cimetidine, etintidine, ranitidine, ICIA-5165, tiotidine, ORF-17578, lupitidine, donetidine, famotidine, roxatidine, pifatidine, lamitidine, BL-6548, BMY-25271, zaltidine, nizatidine, mifentidine, BMY-25968 (SKF-94482), BL-6341A, ICI-162846, ramixotidine, Wy-45727, SR-58042, BMY-25405, loxidine, DA-4634, bisfentidine, sufotidine, ebrotidine, HE-30-256, D-16637, FRG-8813, FRG-8701, impromidine, L-643728, HB-408, and mixtures thereof.
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- B2
7. A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects according to Claim 2, wherein said composition topically administered to said subjects comprises an additional therapeutic active selected from the group consisting of antimicrobial/antiplaque agents, biofilm inhibiting agents, antibiotics; analgesics and local anesthetic agents; dentinal desensitizing agents; odor masking agents; and mixtures thereof.

#### REMARKS

The above amendments are made in response to the Examiner's objections to certain language in the claims as indefinite and to the finality of the restriction requirement to the subgenus of H<sub>2</sub> antagonist as host response modulating agent. The claims are also amended to more distinctly define the present invention as a method for promoting whole body health in human and animal subjects by administering a topical composition comprising a H<sub>2</sub> antagonist to the oral cavity of the subjects.

No new matter is involved with the amendments to the claims and no additional claims fee is known to be due.

By these amendments Claims 2-4 and 7 remain pending in the application.

#### Claims Rejection Under 35 USC § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4 and 7 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite stating that it is not clear what the phrase "whole body health" encompasses. Claim 7 is further rejected as indefinite for reciting the phrase "dentinal desensitizing agents", which the Examiner considers as not defined in the disclosure. Applicants are appreciative of the Examiner's suggestion to amend Claims 3 and 7 to proper Markush format and have made the changes accordingly. The list of species recited in Claim 4 is already presented in Markush format.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of the claims as indefinite because of the phrases "whole body health" and "dentinal desensitizing agents."

Applicants submit that the phrase "dentinal desensitizing agents" would be readily understandable to those of skill in the art and does not need further definition. The phrase refers to a class of oral care actives with